

## AMERICA AND JAPAN IN MODUS VIVENDI

Agreement Reached Between  
Forces in Protection of Trans-  
Siberian Railway.

### FRANK CRITICISM MADE

Washington Note Said to Have  
Charged Mikado's Troops  
With Failure to Aid.

*By the Associated Press.*  
TOKIO, Oct. 11.—What is called a *modus vivendi* has been reached in Siberia between the Japanese and American expeditionary forces concerning the protection of the Trans-Siberian Railway. It is learned that the expectation here therefore is that the negotiations between the Governments of the United States and Japan over the question, opened, as recently reported, by the sending of a note from Washington to the Japanese Government, will be speedily and satisfactorily concluded.

As reported in a Tokio despatch of October 8, the note pointed out that Japanese troops had failed to cooperate with the railroad engineers in conducting the railroad in the interests of the Russian people by permitting the transportation of food supplies necessary to the Russians. It was said to have frankly pointed out that unless effective cooperation could be arranged the United States might feel obliged to withdraw its troops from Siberia altogether. The note also was said inferentially to have voiced the fear that lack of cooperation by Japan might lead to the impression that she was supporting the old idea of self-interest and aggression, which it was confidently hoped the world had abandoned.

Except among a limited number of diplomats the contents of the American note have not been disclosed. Opening up, as it was considered to do, the whole question of American and Japanese cooperation, the American communication is represented as having caused considerable anxiety in Japanese official circles. Whatever unpleasant impression the wording of the note may have created, however, the feeling here is declared to be that all questions affecting the relations of the two countries are best treated by frank discussion. The Japanese reply will be drafted in that spirit.

The Japanese seem to be growing increasingly convinced that certain Russian elements in Siberia, seeking their own ends, are striving to engender ill feeling between the American and Japanese troops, these elements aiming to secure the withdrawal of all the foreign forces in Russia and caring little what effect their intrigues may have upon the friendly relations of Japan and America. This being the belief here, observers who have recently arrived from Siberia are urging the greatest forbearance in the relations between the Americans and Japanese there, where Russian affairs are said to give the appearance of working toward a crisis.

It is understood from reports reaching here that the Cosacks as a distinct body are gradually coming to wield a greater influence in the Omsk Government, while refugees who have emerged recently from Bolshevik territory claim that the more conservative elements among the Bolsheviks are little by little becoming more influential in Soviet Russia. These refugees express the opinion that a way may be found for bringing this class of the Bolsheviks into a conference with the Siberian Socialists, thus preparing the ground for the eventual solution of the problem created by the Russian revolution, without foreign interference.

Although Japanese officers are appearing to maintain a friendly interest in Gen. Semenov the opinion is expressed here that the Japanese Government will never support this Cosack leader as the dictator of any Siberian Government.

## GERMANS MAY AVOID LABOR CONGRESS

Dutch and Danish Delegates  
Reported in Sympathy.

*By the Associated Press.*  
BERLIN, Oct. 10 (delayed).—Discussing the coming International Labor Conference at Washington, Forwerth asserts it is "impossible for Germany to submit to the humiliation of seeing her delegates wait in posthumous garments while Hayti, Liberia and other negro republics may decide for themselves whether they will attend the conference." The newspaper thinks that before the International Labor Bureau can reach a decision, it may be too late to send German delegates to Washington. "At this time, perhaps, the intention of the International Governments," Forwerth asks in conclusion.

LONDON, Oct. 11.—Dutch delegates to the International Labor Conference in Washington are discussing details of the meeting with a representative of the German Government, according to a Central News despatch from Amsterdam. It is said the Dutch representatives will raise the question of full rights being accorded the German and Austrian delegations, and if this is denied, they will appeal to countries represented at the conference to leave and convene an international trades union congress in opposition to the conference.

COPENHAGEN, Oct. 11.—Danish union labor representatives will take part in the International Labor Conference under certain conditions, it developed today. The Danish representatives will insist that the German and Austrian delegations be insured equal rights with the representatives of the allied and neutral nations.

## 2,000 DIE IN BRITISH WRECK, SAYS REPORT

Admiralty Discredits News of  
Disaster Off Norway.

ANCHORAGE, Oct. 10 (delayed).—Two thousand lives have been lost in the wreck of an unnamed British ship on the Norwegian coast, according to a wireless despatch received here from Helmsingfors.

LONDON, Oct. 11.—Neither the Admiralty nor Lloyd's has received any information relative to the wreck of a British ship on the Norwegian coast. At these sources the report is discredited.

If the loss of life in the wreck reported in the foregoing despatch is as large as indicated the disaster will mark a new record in the annals of the sea. It would seem probable the ship

which was wrecked was a military transport bringing British soldiers from Archangel, from which port Great Britain has been embarking large numbers of men during the last month. It is known that troopships have sailed quite recently from Archangel, Copenhagen and other ports, and have been rushed to the front south of that city to meet onslaughts of German and Russian forces.

The largest recorded loss of life in a marine disaster occurred when the Titanic was sunk after colliding with an iceberg south of Newfoundland, April 14, 1912, the list of deaths showing 1,503 names. The Lusitania, sunk by a German submarine May 7, 1915, carried with her more than 1,200 of her passengers and crew. When the Empress of Ireland was sent to the bottom in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, May 30, 1914, the loss of life was 1,057. One thousand died when the Japanese steamship Kikkō Maru sank in Australian waters, September 28, 1912.

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The letter from Ossip Gabril-  
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